



YOUNG SOUTHEAST ASIAN LEADERS INITIATIVE

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE FY-14 YOUNG SOUTHEAST ASIAN INITIATIVE (YSEALI) PROFESSIONAL FELLOWS ON NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS DEVELOPMENT

The Mansfield Center of the University of Montana of Missoula is seeking applications for the Young Southeast Asian Initiative (YSEALI) Professional Fellows on Non-Government Organizations Development for Vietnam. Sponsored by the U.S. Department of State, the program is jointly implemented by the University of Montana in the U.S. and the Center for Community Empowerment (CECEM) in Vietnam. The application deadline is December 1st, 2014.

Program Overview

The Mansfield Center of the University of Montana of Missoula, Montana will conduct a multi-part, two-way NGO Development Professional Fellows Program for approximately 36 professionals; 24 emerging leaders from Burma, Cambodia, Laos, Thailand, Vietnam and approximately 12 U.S. participants. The program goal is to enhance leadership and professional skills while building sustainable partnerships through non-governmental organization development. Program participants will spend approximately 38 days in the United States for tailored working placements with non-profit organizations that work with youth, women, indigenous populations, and other marginalized groups, as well as the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes and related programming, followed by the Professional Fellows Congress in Washington, D.C. American participants will travel overseas to spend approximately 14 days working with their foreign counterparts in their workplaces and communities in Burma, Cambodia, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam.

Other Essential Program Information

Program Funding: The United States government will cover all participant costs, including international travel; travel and ground transportation in the U.S.; meals; lodging; and cultural allowances. Care will be taken to meet any special requirements regarding diet, daily worship, housing, and medical care.

While you will be asked to host U.S. participants at your place of work, the program for the Americans will be at no expense to you or your organization. American participants will be provided all funds for hotels, meals and transportation.

Health Insurance: All participants will receive the U.S. Department of State's health coverage. Pre-existing conditions are not covered.

Program Requirements and Restrictions: Participants are expected to participate fully in the program. They are expected to attend all workshops and organized activities. The program is intensive and there will be little time for personal pursuits.

English Language Ability: It is imperative that all candidates demonstrate English language fluency. The program is rigorous and demanding. Participants will be expected to handle reading materials in English and to be full and active participants in all seminar and panel discussions. English fluency is vital to a successful experience.

Candidate Description and Qualifications: The participants are expected to be highly motivated professionals working on issues related to NGO development.

Program Time-line

The recruitment period is October 15 – November 30, 2014. Application review will be conducted by local partners in conjunction with the Mansfield Center. Successful applicants will progress to a telephone interview in order to assess English-language skills and further ascertain suitability for the program. A select number will be chosen for personal interviews taking place in January 14, 2015. Selected candidates will be notified by January 14, 2015. They will depart for the U.S. either in May 2015, or October 2015.

Selection Criteria

- English-language fluency.
- Aged 25-35.
- Plan to return to your organization following completion of the program.
- Demonstrate strong leadership qualities and potential in your work.
- An emerging or mid-level professional with the background to benefit from this learning experience.
- Completion of relevant education (preferred but not required).
- Suitability of the applicant's organization to benefit from this exchange and to host a U.S. participant.
- Commitment to hosting a U.S. participant for 10-20 days. This includes organizing a professional program, a cultural orientation, and working with the local partner and the Mansfield Center to organizing logistics such as lodging and transportation. (All activities are paid for by the program, not by you or your organization.)
- The support of your supervisor and/or organization.
- A demonstrated interest in working in cross-cultural settings.
- Demonstrated understanding of program objectives.
- Communication of personal goals in line with program objectives.
- Participants chosen from each country as a whole reflect the diversity of that country in terms of its populace, geography, and variety of economic interests/fields/organizations.
- Demonstrated commitment to strengthening your community.
- Little or no prior study or travel experience in the United States.
- Be willing and able to fully participate in an intensive program, Fellowship position, community service, and travel program in the U.S. for approximately 37 days.
- Be able to make adjustments to cultural and social practices different from those in Vietnam.

The deadline for receipt of applications is December 1st, 2014. Late applications will not be accepted.

For more detailed information and application form, please visit the program website [here](http://www.umd.edu/mansfield/internationalprograms/yseali-civil-society-development-fellows/default.php), or <http://www.umd.edu/mansfield/internationalprograms/yseali-civil-society-development-fellows/default.php>

The program application for the YSEALI Professional Fellows Program will open on October 15, 2014.

Questions can be directed to: Ms. Ngo Thi Thu Hang, Program Coordinator in Vietnam, at 0913-007-417 or 04-3-944-7060; E-mail thuhang.learning@cecem.org or info.learning@cecem.org; or e-mail the Cultural Team, U.S. Embassy Hanoi at pas.culture@gmail.com; or Cultural Affairs Assistant Le Muon, U.S. Consulate Ho Chi Minh City at LeMuonTK@state.gov